

Golden Rod.

(Solidago)

The Golden Rod Wild flower is by far the most popular of all the Composite Family of wild flowers in Pocahontas County.

This is a handsome wayside plant of the genus (Solidago) which in late summer or early autumn bears panicles of yellow flowers . One species has white blossoms. Most of the 125 species are native of North America.

With the Aster, which bloom at the same time , the Golden Rod makes the last wild showy flower display in many parts of the country, and is so familiar everywhere that some of the States - Alabama, Kentucky, Nebraska, and North Carolina - have chosen it for the State Flower ; In Europe the Golden Rod is cultivated in gardens . Some species were formerly used for making yellow dye , and were called " Dyess Weeds "

Along shady roadsides and in moist woods and thickets, ^{from} August to October The Blue -stemmed, Wreath, or Woodland Golden -rod (*S. caesia*) sways an unbranched stem with a bluish bloom on it.

When these flowers transforms whole acres into " fields of the cloth of gold " the slender wands swaying by every roadside, and Purple Asters add the final touche of beauty and splendor to the Autumn landscape. This wild flower of Pocahontas County is found in both low and high altitudes . especially in meadows , and pasture lands.

Golden Aster

(*Chrysopsis mariana*)

Flower-heads - Composite, yellow, 1 in wide or less, a few corymbed flowers on glandular stalks; each composed of perfect tubular disk florets surrounded by pistillate ray florets; the involucre campanulate, its narrow bracts overlapping in several series.

Stem:- Stout , silky, hairy when young, nearly smooth later, 1 to 2½ ft. tall

Leaves ; - Alternate, oblong to spatulate, entire.

Preferred Habitat - Dry soil, or sandy, soil.

Flowering Season- August- September.

Whoever comes upon clumps of these handsome flowers by the dusty roadside cannot but be impressed with the appropriateness of their ^{generic} name (*Chryso* - Gold)

This is a beautiful wild flower of Peckham County , but is not as common as other species of the Composite Golden Rod family.

Daisy Fleabane; Sweet Scabious.

(*Erigeron annuus*)

Flower-heads - Numerous, daisy-like, about $\frac{1}{2}$ in across; from 40 to 70 long, fine, white rays (or purple or pink tinged) arranged around yellow disk florets in a rough, hemispheric cup whose bracts overlap.

Stem- Erect, 1 to 4 ft high, branching above, with spreading, rough hairs.

Leaves:- Thin, lower ones ovate, coarsely toothed, petioled ; upper ones sessile, becoming smaller, lance shaped.

Preferred Habitat- : Fields waste land, and roadsides.

Flowering Season:- May to November.

At a glance one knows this flower to be a kin to Robin,s plantain, the Asters and Dasies, . That this wild flower known as Daisy Fleabane, drive away fleas, is believed only by those who have tried it out; when dried and sprinkled in dog kennels, when reduced to a powder , have been known to drive the dogs away. Hence the name Fleabane.

Black eyed Susan; Yellow or Ox-eye Daisy; Nigger-heads;
Golden Jerusalem Purple Cone -Flower.

(*Rudbeckia hirta.*)

Flower heads-- From 10 to 20 orange- yellow neutral rays around a conical,
dark purplish-brown disk of florets containing both stamens and pistil.

Stem: - 1 to 3 ft. tall, hairy, rough, usually unbranched, often tufted,.

Leaves:- Oblong to lance-shaped, thick, sparingly notched, rough.

Preferred Habitat:- Open sunny places; dry fields.

Flowering Season- : May -- September.

So very many weeds have come to our Eastern shores from Europe, and marched
and marched farther and farther west each year, it is but fair that black-eyed
eyed Susan, a native of Western Clover fields, should travel Eastward to the
Atlantic in bundles of Hay whenever she gets a chance , to repay Eastern -
farmers in their own coin. This black eyed Susan is a native of our Western
United States; but have become prime favorites of later ^{years} in European gardens
so offering them still another chance to overrun the Old World, to which so
much American hay is shipped;

Thrifty farmers may decry the importation into their mowing lots, \forall
but there is a glory to the cone -flower besides the glitter of gold fades
into paltry nothingness.

Any one who has had a jar of these yellow daisies standing on a
polished table indoors, and tried to keep its surface free from ^a ring of
golden dust around the flowers, knows how abundant their pollen is. The
Black eyed Susan , like the English Sparrow has come to Stay in Pocahontas
County.